

History Curriculum- Inspiring the Historians of our future, at St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School

Intent:

Psalms: 'Things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done'



At St Francis Xavier, through our History curriculum, we commit to enabling our pupils to be true historians, developing and encouraging their curiosity about the past in Britain and the wider world- giving them the substantive knowledge and disciplinary skills, to understand the diversity and development of our 'common home.' We want all of our pupils to feel empowered as historians, as well as recognise the potential of this in their future vocational journey.

We Stimulate pupils' interest and understanding of the past, gaining insight into how the past has influenced our lives today. This insight aims to develop cultural capital and foster respect, and empathy for others. Through the historical enquiry process of examining evidence, analysis and posing questions; pupils are engaged and proactive in their learning, fostering independence and problem-solving. Pupils learn that history is known, based on fact, opinion, viewpoints and motives interwoven and enjoy deciphering historical 'fact', using disciplinary skills from all curriculum areas.

We deliver a high-quality History curriculum that has been carefully designed and sequenced to equip our children with a secure, coherent knowledge of British, local and world history. Curriculum content is knowledge and vocabulary rich, in a sequenced chronological order allowing children to develop their understanding of abstract concepts, starting in the Early years and progressing across the phases.

History is delivered, with meaningful links to other areas within the wider curriculum. Pupils become responsible for their own learning through open ended challenges and contextual activities. They understand that the enquiry process is about testing ideas and use evidence to justify or explain their reasoning. Pupils work collaboratively and supportively and can pose their own line of enquiry, enabling the subject to become child-led and owned by the pupils.

Through the History curriculum, as part of the School's Catholic Mission, we teach explicit links with Catholic Social teaching and the Gospel Values and Virtues- learning that all places, people and aspects of our history are Important and created by God's own divine hands.

We intend to inspire pupils to develop a broad historical and cultural awareness by:

- Providing opportunities for children to develop a chronological framework by investigating the past and how it influences the present.
- Encouraging children to interrogate evidence and form their own opinions.
- Enabling children to communicate their viewpoints in a variety of ways using appropriate vocabulary.
- Exploring a range of sources of information.
- Fostering enjoyment, empathy and curiosity or finding out about the past.

Implementation:

- The History curriculum is delivered as an explicit subject, from pre-school up to year 6
- ‘Brilliant beginnings’ are planned and delivered at the start of each term.
- Substantive and disciplinary knowledge/understanding is developed- and pupil led historical enquiry is developed, based on the foundations of sequential and progressive subject knowledge.
- We teach the key skills in History including historical enquiry; evidence based historical claims, contrasting arguments, investigation, analysis, evaluation, and presentation.
- Assessment is used to plan, adapt, and deliver a tailored History curriculum, relevant and appropriate for our individual pupils
- Teaching and learning in History is planned to ensure children to know and understand significant events in British history (including the history of our own locality) and to appreciate how people’s lives have shaped the nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world
- We ensure children know and understand significant periods of historical development in the wider world: the nature of ancient civilisations; the expansion and dissolution of empires; characteristic features of past non-European societies
- The History Curriculum is enriched in a variety of ways including examples such as:
 - ✓ Visits to the Black country living museum
 - ✓ Visits to Wroxeter Roman City
 - ✓ Visits to our Local area- Salt wells wood
 - ✓ Visits to Dudley Castle
 - ✓ Visit to Cadbury World
 - ✓ Opportunity for external visitors to further enhance the curriculum

Statement of Impact

At St Francis Xavier, our Pupils are engaged and immersed in History and take pride in their learning experiences. Pupils are confident and able to talk about what they have learnt in history using subject specific vocabulary. Pupils enjoy history and are able to recall their learning over time. Pupils work demonstrates that history is taught at an age-appropriate standard across each year group. Work is of good quality and demonstrates pupils are acquiring knowledge, skills and vocabulary in an appropriate sequence.